

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A spatial light modulator comprising a multiplicity of pixels arranged in a lattice form for selecting a transmission or reflection state and a blocking state of light on each pixel thereby spatially modulating light intensity, the spatial light modulator;

wherein light transmissivity distribution or light reflectivity distribution over whole pixels is set such that a light transmissivity or light reflectivity is lower at and around a center of an arrangement of the pixels and increased with increasing distance from the center.

2. A spatial light modulator according to claim 1, wherein the light transmissivity distribution or light reflectivity distribution is set substantially inversely proportional to Gaussian distribution.

3. A spatial light modulator according to claim 1, wherein the light transmissivity through or light reflectivity upon the pixels is set on each pixel.

4. A spatial light modulator according to claim 2, wherein the light transmissivity through or light reflectivity upon the pixels is set on each pixel.

5. A holographic recording/reproducing apparatus comprising at least:

a spatial light modulator having a multiplicity of pixels arranged in a lattice form for selecting a transmission or reflection state and a blocking state of light on each pixel thereby spatially modulating light intensity, light transmissivity distribution or light reflectivity distribution over whole pixels is to be set on each pixel;

10 light-receiving means for detecting an intensity distribution of a light beam passed the spatial light modulator;

control means for setting light transmissivity through or light reflectivity upon the pixel, depending upon an intensity distribution of the light beam detected by the light-receiving 15 means.

6. A holographic recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the light-receiving means comprises a plurality of light-receiving elements distributed in a two-dimensional arrangement, a radial distribution function of the light-receiving elements having a value increasing with increasing distance from a center of the light receiving means.